

CHRISTIAN EPPS

DESIGN & PRODUCTION

christian@christianepps.com



www.christianepps.com

BIOGRAPHY

Christian Epps' career as a lighting designer has spanned more than four decades covering the range from major motion pictures, broadcast television, live theater, dance, music videos and special events. TV; **Lovecraft Country (HBO)**, **BLACK IS KING for Beyonce**, **President Clinton Live at the White House**, **Centennial Olympic Games** - Badminton Competition & numerous press areas. Black Movie Awards (TNT). Your Attention Please for **Hulu**, John Leguizamo's Broadway show **Freak (HBO)**. Dinner & A Movie (TBS). Man-Made Movie (TBS). The Jacksons' Reality Show (A&E). Source Awards, Stellar Awards, Comic View, 106 & Park, **Jamie Foxx's** Laffapalooza, 'The Tom Joyner Show' (Syndicated). 'The Brian McKnight Show, **The Weather Channel**, Bill Cosby's web content OBKB. Film; Christian's passion for dramatic lighting has been put to use with notable directors such as **Spike Lee**, **Hype Williams**, **Ava DuVernay**, David Lowery, Ice Cube and Akin Omotosho. Music video; **Michael Jackson**, **Alicia Keys**, **The Weekend**, P. Diddy, **Biggy Smalls**, **Whitney Houston**, **Queen Latifah**, TLC, Boyz II Men, and many, many more. He served as the gaffer on '**Belly**', directed by the seminal music video director Hype Williams. Corporate; **Nike**, **Facebook**, **Cadillac**, Sprite, **McDonalds**, Buena Vista Television, GE Capitol, **Paramount Studios**, Home Depot, **ESPN**, **Buick**, Kaiser Permanente, Amtrak, Panasonic. **Disney Imagineering** selected Christian to participate in their very exclusive concept program known as 'Blue Sky'. Recent projects; Strong Black Lead (**Netflix**), Beck & **Lincoln Automotive** (commercial), The Door (a short film for fashion brand **Prada**), Ain't Them Bodies Saints, (**Sundance Cinematography Award winning movie - Bradford Young, DP**). From 2006 to 2009 Mr. Epps has been working in **Lagos**, and Abuja, Nigeria. He designed the lighting rig and coordinated many of the technical departments for the concert series known as 'This Day! Festival (4 yrs) featuring **Beyonce**, Snoop Dog, Shakira, **John Legend**, Mary J. Blige, Usher, **Rihanna**, **Jay-Z**, UB-40, Chris Brown, Ne-Yo, and a Fashion show with international design star **Oswald Boateng** among others. In 2012 he worked with Jungle Films and Nigerian Breweries to design the lighting for 2 popular reality TV shows - Star Quest and Maltina Dance All. In addition, the biggest show in the country - The Headies Awards. Christian was brought in to work with the local vendors and local crews to produce a quality product. Venue; Carnegie Hall, **The Kodak Theater**, **The Kennedy Center**, The **Brooklyn Academy of Music**, The **Apollo Theatre**, The White House, The **Superbowl Fan Experience**, Trinidad & Tobago Jazz Fest, St. Lucia Jazz Festival, This Day Festival (Lagos, Nigeria), throughout the Caribbean, as well as numerous countries on three continents Awards.

UNIONS; I.A.T.S.E. Local 728 & Local 52



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CORPORATE

McDonalds
The Olympic Games
Nike
National Urban
League
General Electric
Cadillac

Panasonic

Netflix

Nickelodeon

TALENT

Pres. Barack Obama
Michelle Obama
Oprah Winfrey
Pres. Bill Clinton

Michael Jackson

Spike Lee (10 years)

Barbra Streisand

Whitney Houston

Nick Cannon

Kevin Hart

David Oyelowo

Jamie Foxx

NETWORKS

NETFLIX

HBO

ABC

NBC

MTV

A&E

FOX



www.christianepps.com

CREDITS

Christian Epps' career as a Lighting Designer, Director Of Photography and Gaffer, has spanned more than thirty years covering the range from major motion pictures, television, live broadcasts, corporate, commercial, music videos and live events.

TV; Queen Sono (Netflix) The Orisha Project (Netflix, in production), Lovecraft Country (HBO), President Clinton Live at the White House, 1996 Centennial Olympic Games - Badminton Competition & numerous press areas. Black Movie Awards (TNT). V-H1, John Leguizamo's Broadway show Freak (HBO). Dinner & A Movie, Man-Made Movie, ABFF Honors, The Jacksons' Reality Show (A&E). The Weather Channel, Showtime, BET, ABC, Source Awards, Stellar Awards, Comic View, 106 & Park, Jamie Foxx's Laffapalooza, 'The Brian McKnight Show',

Film Collaborators; Spike Lee, Hype Williams, Ava DuVernay, Bradford Young, Malik Sayeed. David Lowery, Arthur 'AJ' Jafa

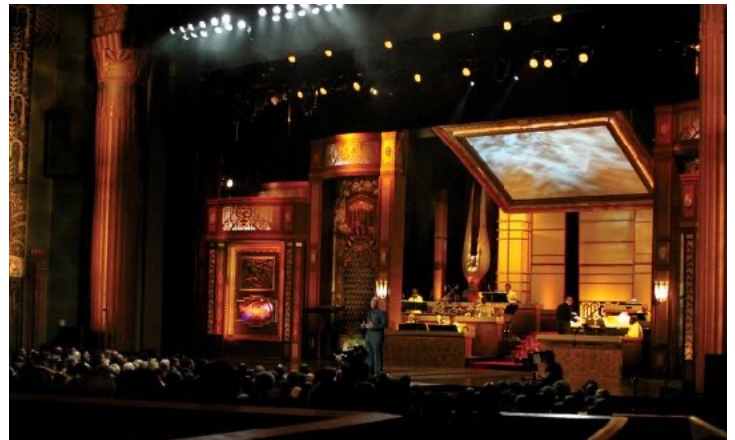
Feature Film; SYLVIE'S LOVE, SELMA, BELLY (directed by the seminal music video director Hype Williams), MIDDLE OF NOWHERE, CLOCKERS, AIN'T THEM BODIES SAINTS. Electrician; MO' BETTER BLUES, GIRL SIX, HE GOT GAME, MALCOLM X, and many more.

Corporate/Commercial; Cadillac, Nike, Hennessy, Lincoln Automotive, Prada, Sprite, McDonald's, Paramount Studios, Home Depot, ESPN, Buick, Kaiser Permanente, Amtrak, Panasonic Buena Vista Television, IBM, GE Capitol. Disney Imagineering selected Christian to participate in their very exclusive concept program known as 'Blue Sky'.

Featured Talent; Beyonce, Michael Jackson, Alicia Keys, Nick Cannon, The Weekend, Whitney Houston, P. Diddy, Biggie Smalls, Barbra Streisand, TLC, Boyz II Men, R. Kelly, Queen Latifah, Me'Shell N'degeocello, and many, many more over several decades.

Technical Producer/Coordinator

AIDs Healthcare Foundation (5yrs), American Black Film Festival (16 yrs), THISDAY! Festival (3yrs), St. Lucia Jazz Festival (1yr), Trinidad & Tobago Jazz Festival (3yrs)



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TECHNICAL SERVICES - Interdepartmental coordination of site plans and production schedules for live events, including merging site plans for technical departments.

- American Black Film Festival - Technical Producer, 16 Yrs. Lighting & scenic design, labor.
- CIAA Basketball Conference - Co-Producer of Technical Services, 8 yrs., 20,000 visitors/day
- Jubilation! Dance Company - 10 years touring. France, Spain, Germany, Switzerland., Canada, US

AWARDS. THEATRE - LA Drama Critic's Circle - Career Achievement, Backstage Magazine, NAACP Theatre Awards, Ovation Awards, LA Weekly, LA Drama Critic's Circle – Design Nomination
ARCHITECTURAL - Solomon Awards; Church Production Magazine-Best Large Church Renovation

UNIONS; I.A.T.S.E. Local 728 & Local 52



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LIGHTS, CAMERA, DIASPORA! AFRICA SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

www.lightscameradiaspora.org

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT Christian has been working in Nigeria and South Africa numerous times a year since 2006. In 2013 Christian founded LIGHTS, CAMERA, DIASPORA! The organization builds bridges between technicians across Africa with those in the African diaspora. Focusing on the below-the-line areas such as camera, lighting, sound, grip, and production coordinator departments. The main focus of LCD! is to provide collaboration in a hands-on, on-the-job environment. Christian has gaff'ed two Nollywood movies with Emem Isong, one of the biggest Nollywood producers in the market, with skills-sharing as an equally important element of the job duties. Mr. Epps is continuing to design lighting for some of the biggest shows in Nigeria. LCD! has done training projects in Nigeria, Rwanda, Zimbabwe, and South Africa. LCD! has become the major focus of Christian's career and promises to reap benefits for many in the industry on both sides of the ocean!

MISSION STATEMENT Lights, Camera, Diaspora! is a non-profit social enterprise that bridges the gap between the African and African-Diaspora entertainment industries to progress the aesthetic quality and business opportunities for African film, broadcast and live events on the Continent and in the African Diaspora.

MISSION STATEMENT Through collaborations in production partnerships, LCD! connects the African and African-Diaspora entertainment industries by connecting people, companies, and institutions on the Continent with those in the Diaspora to expand the aesthetic quality and business opportunities for African media and broadcast content, live events and people. LCD! brings the skills acquired across the Diaspora to the Continent to increase real knowledge transfer, expand opportunities to share content, culture and self-expression with a worldwide market. LCD! creates opportunities for career and financial economic advancement for individuals and new market opportunities for people and companies. We provide a much-needed path for those in the Diaspora to connect with African businesses and professionals, resulting in a more economically sustainable, culturally cohesive, and globally unified foundation for Africans across the globe.



LIGHTS, CAMERA, DIASPORA! AFRICA SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

www.lightscameradiaspora.org

WORKSHOP PARTNERS *Partial List

Kwa-Zulu Natal Film Commission
JOMBA! / UKZN Center For Creative Arts
American Film Institute (AFI)
Film Media Services,
Zimbabwe International Film Festival
Women's International Film Festival
U.S. Embassy / Zimbabwe Intl. Film Fest.
U.S. Consulate / AFRIFF Film Fest
African International Film Festival (AFRIFF),
Royal Arts Academy,
Ultima Studios
House On The Rock Church
Institut Supérieur De Management
Rwanda Film Festival

Durban, South Africa
Durban, South Africa
Hollywood, California
Johannesburg, South Africa
Harare, Zimbabwe
Harare, Zimbabwe
Harare, Zimbabwe
Lagos, Nigeria
Lagos, Nigeria
Lagos, Nigeria
Lagos, Nigeria
Lagos, Nigeria
Dakar, Senegal
Kigali, Rwanda



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THEATRE & DANCE PRESS REVIEWS

"...light designer Christian Epps' stages the encounter in darkness... Epps' explosive lighting (is) strikingly used"

Variety

"...aided by Christian Epps' stellar lighting right up to the satisfying finale. Sachs and his designers certainly give polished support.

LA Times

"Lighting guru Christian Epps...makes for onstage pictures blessed with sizzle and professionalism!"

The Chicago SunTimes

"...A terrific cinematic montage of the singers rise, propelled by Christian Epps' mercurial lighting"

The Atlanta Journal/Constitution

Christian Epps is simply a master with light, finding just the right amount of shadow, hue, and luster, fully capturing an evocative ambiance.

www.StageHappenings.com

"The arts center has rarely seen lighting effects this dramatic and expressive. The lighting alone made it the best work on the program. Beams coming together into one intense white pyramid, in which Mr. Jeff triumphantly faced the audience, every muscle sculpted in sweat and brilliant light!"

The Red Deer Advocate

"Why and How, I do not understand, but seeing the four female figures emerge in a tableau ... I have become transfixed. The lighting design of Christian Epps (was) almost deceptively simple and absolutely just right."

Audience Member



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